staff side were allocated to the recognised associations as under provisionally, subject to verification of the relative strengths:

All India Kendriya Vidyalaya Teachers Association	2
Rashtriya Kendriya Vidyalaya Adhyapak Sangh	2
Kendriya Vidyalaya Non-Teaching Staff Association (KEVINTSA)	2
Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan Staff Association	1
	7

The Staff Council under JCM met twice on 7th March and 19th August, 1988 to finalise the rules for the conduct of business of the Council provided in the scheme. The AIKVTA filed writ petitions in Delhi High Court for restraining the KVS from holding the meeting of JCM. The writ petitions were dismissed by the High Court on 93|03|88 and 08/07/88. The allocation of seats to various recognised associations was reviewed again and in the light of the enrolment figures, the then Chairman, KVS ordered re-distribution of seats as under:—

All India Kendriya Vidyalaya Teachers Association	3
Rashtriya Kendriya Vidyalaya Adhyapak Sangh	2
Kendriya Vidyalaya Non-Teaching Staff Association	1
Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan Staff Association	1
	7

The Sangathan had planned to convene the meeting of JCM in the month of October, 1989. However, in the meantime, there was split in RKVAS and the two factions of this organisation held parallel national conventions at Delhi and Kanpur. Another association *viz.* Kendriya Vidyalaya Non-Teaching Staff Association also raised objection against the reduction of their seats from two to one on grounds of contravention of the constitution of the Scheme.

The VIKVTA also raised the following issues:

(i) The RKVAS is no longer a legal entity to be representated on the JCM as the minimum membership strength of 3150 as required for grant of recognition by the KVS is not enjoyed by RKVAS after their split and as such their recognition be withdrawn.

(ii) All the 5 seats allocated to the two teaching associations on JCM may be allotted to AIKVTA.

Keeping in view the above facts, the Sangathan sought the advice of Ministry of Law as to whether it would be legally in order for KVS to convene the meeting of Staff Council of JCM. The advice of Ministry of Law has been received and has been forwarded to the KVS for follow-up action.

Use of Paladium for atomic energy

1809. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the increased scope of Paladium in the Development of Atomic Energy in view of the shortage of uranium in our country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) in what manner Government propose to use Palladium for Atomic Energy programme in our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) Palladium is not a substitute for Uranium in the Atomic Energy Programme. However, in the recently reported "Cold Fusion" experiments, Palladium electrodes have been used in the electrolytic cells.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) While there is no programme for using Palladium in our Nuclear Power Programme, studies on cold fusion phenomenon are being carried out in the laboratories of the Department of Atomic Energy. Other materials like Titanium have also been used for producing cold fusion.

Charging of compulsory computer fee in public schools in Delhi

1810. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced computer education at school stage;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that some of the public schools in Delhi have introduced computer education at the primary school stage and are charging compulsory high fees from the students ignorant of use of computer;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof;

(e) what steps Government propose to take to check the arbitrary burden loaded on the small children by the public schools; and

(f) in what manner, Government propose to check the extortion of money by public schools in the name of computer education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) to (f) A Pilot Project for Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools (CLASS) was initiated in 1984-85 in 248 selected Secondary/Higher Secondary Schools jointly by the Department of Electronics and the Department of Education with the following objectives:

— to provide students a broad understanding of computers and their use;

— to provide hands-on experience;

— to familiarise the students-with the range of computer applications in all walks of human activities and computers' potential as a controlling and information processing tool;

— to demystify computers and in develop a degree of case and familarity with computers which would be conducive to developing individual creativity in identifying applications relevant to their immediate environment.

The Project was further extended on year-to-year basis till 1988-89, covering 2079 more schools. So far 73 schools have been selected dnder the Project in Delhi. Besides 3 resource centres, which provide resource support to the participating schools, have also been selected in Delhi. Under the project computer hardware, software, guide-materials and necessary training are provided to the selected schools, free of cost.

As regards introduction of Computer Education and charging of high fees in public schools, Delhi Administration has informed that 28 such schools are charging fees of Rs. 10—70/- per month/